

<b>Committee</b>	The Board of Management
<b>Subject</b>	North Highland College – Accounts for the Year Ended 31 July 2023
<b>Action requested</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For information only <input type="checkbox"/> For discussion <input type="checkbox"/> For recommendation <input type="checkbox"/> For endorsement <input type="checkbox"/> For approval
<b>Summary of the paper</b>	<p>Final accounts for the year ended 31 July 2023 for North Highland College (see attached) were presented for consideration on 26-Feb- to the Audit and Risk Management Committee and on 05-Mar to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.</p> <p>Formal approval was given on 05-Mar at a joint meeting of the Audit and Risk Management Committee and Finance and General Purposes Committee., with delegated authority being granted to the Chair of the Board and the Principal and Chief Executive to sign the accounts, subject to there being no substantive changes to the draft presented.</p> <p>Deloitte confirmed that they expect to issue an unqualified audit opinion on the accounts, but have raised some issues, risks and unadjusted errors which will be included in their detailed report that will be submitted separately to the accounts.</p> <p>However, to date, the draft accounts remain unsigned, with the agreed date for signature having been cancelled at Deloitte's request on three occasions [3<sup>rd</sup> March 11<sup>th</sup> March and 21<sup>st</sup> March], as they still had internal quality control and file finalisation procedures to complete.</p> <p>Currently, the College awaits confirmation as to the date on which Deloitte will be ready to sign.</p> <p>The attached accounts do contain a small number of minor edits that have been made since formal approval on 5<sup>th</sup> March, but it can be confirmed that there have been no substantive changes and none are expected.</p>
<b>Resource implications</b>	Completing all the accounting work and managing the audit process for this legacy college has required a significant amount of finance team resource, particularly from the Head of Finance, over the last 12 months.
<b>Risk implications</b>	There are no significant risk implications
<b>Date paper prepared</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> March 2025

<b>Date of Board / Committee meeting</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
<b>Author</b>	Kevin Mallett, Head of Finance
<b>Link with strategy</b> Please highlight how the paper links to the Strategic Plan	These are the last remaining legacy college accounts, and their completion will enable the finance team to focus on the key strategy of financial sustainability for UHI North, West & Hebrides.
<b>Island communities</b>	The rural and islands college merger may have an impact on the Western Isles and islands covered by West Highland College that is different to other communities. As part of the merger process, the University has undertaken an Island Communities Impact Assessment.
<b>Status</b> (e.g., confidential, non-confidential)	Non confidential
<b>Freedom of information</b>	Yes
<b>Consultation</b> How has consultation with partners been conducted?	Extensive consultation with our external auditors Deloitte  Endorsed by Audit & Risk Management Committee on 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2025, subject to F&GP on 5 <sup>th</sup> March and approved at a joint meeting on 5 <sup>th</sup> March.

**Recommendation – The accounts are presented for approval**